

some unanimous consent requests would come in; is that correct? I will be happy to yield out of our time to the majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am now going to be asking unanimous consent that would extend the unemployment benefits for an additional 30 days. I make it formally in this form.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 323, H.R. 4851, to provide a temporary extension of certain programs; that the bill be read three times, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object, it is my understanding if we were to do that we would add \$9.2 billion to the debt. I am wondering if that is correct. The same unanimous consent request was asked earlier today, and the head of the Finance Committee said it would add \$9.2 billion to the debt. So given the fact that it will add to the debt rather than us making choices, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. Who yields time?

Mr. COBURN. I yield 10 minutes to the Senator from Alabama.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama is recognized.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I appreciate so much Senator COBURN's leadership on this very important matter. I think we are at a defining moment. I take offense for those who say we have no interest in extending unemployment insurance. My State has high unemployment. We were doing very well, and it has doubled now from where we were in unemployment.

My home area is one of the worst in the State. I am well aware of that. Members of the Senate on this side of the aisle strongly favor extending unemployment insurance and actually extending other benefits, too, such as the doctors fix that we need to do, the COBRA and FMAP and matters of that kind which are in the legislation and we believe should be passed into law. There is just one thing that I would raise, and that is that we want it to be in a way that does not increase, again, the debt because here we go again.

Our colleagues passed an amendment, passed the pay-go law a few weeks ago, and within a few days they were violating it. This violates it again. What we need to ask ourselves, then, is how we are going to help people who are in need. Are we going to do it in a responsible way or will we take the easy way out, pass the debt on to our children and grandchildren without the least concern, it seems, about how we are going to pay for it?

My colleague just recently said we should call it an emergency. Unemployment insurance is fundamentally one of our established government programs, he said, because that allows us to provide this benefit without an off-

set. That is precisely what the deal is, you understand. He was quite honest about it. We do not have to pay for it; we don't have to look for money; we don't have to cut waste, fraud, and abuse; we don't have to reach into the stimulus bill that we passed, which was announced to be for unemployment insurance as one of its primary motives and use that money that is unspent—and \$100 billion or \$200 billion still remains unspent. Why don't we use that money? It would not then increase the debt larger than we now have.

We proposed a number of other offsets, offsets that our Democratic colleagues have utilized in legislation they have offered. We have suggested to our colleagues, what other containment of spending would you propose, and we would be willing to consider if you would use that to pay for this. But the day of just continuing to increase our debt is passed.

This Senate needs to face the truth, and the truth is we will double the entire debt of the United States in 5 years, ending 2013. We will triple the entire debt of the United States in 2019. In 2019 the interest on the debt that we will be paying in that 1 year will be \$800 billion. Just last year the interest on the total debt of the United States was \$170 billion. We cannot continue this. Every economist who has ever testified before our Budget Committee has said repeatedly this is unsustainable. When do we stop if it is unsustainable? Members of our Senate say it is unsustainable, on both sides of the aisle. When do we stop?

Senator COBURN had the courage to say: Now, we can pay for this. We have moneys unspent that we can use to pay for the extension of unemployment insurance, and we will not agree that we will just add more to our debt.

I have in my pocket, I just happened to notice, pictures of three of my grandchildren. I have had three—one born in November, one born 2 weeks ago, one born Sunday. We are talking about hundreds of thousands of dollars that they are going to have to pay off.

It is an addiction and a habit that we must break. This is \$9 billion added to the debt. I hope and pray this courage by Senator COBURN that calls us to account and says let's face the music and let's be honest with ourselves is respected, as I respect it. I think the American people respect it. When I am out talking in my townhall meetings and in my communities and in the airplanes, they tell me: You guys are spending recklessly. We can't believe it. What has happened?

The American people understand we cannot do this. There is no free lunch. Nothing comes from nothing. Somebody pays, and we cannot just spend and take the easy way every time without facing the consequences of a debt that we create. When we spend more than we take in, we borrow the money. We borrow it on the open market and we pay interest on the debt.

I want to say my Democratic colleagues are at it again, spending more

and not paying for it. Have the Republicans failed in their responsibility when they had the Presidency and a majority in the Senate? Yes, we should have done much better. But we have never seen the deficits we are seeing today—never, ever.

President Bush had a record deficit of \$450 billion his last year in office. This year, ending September 30, it was \$1.4 trillion—\$1,400 billion—three times. This year, when September 30 arrives, our budget experts tell us our annual deficit for this 1 year will be \$1.5 trillion, and we will average \$1 trillion a year for the years to come, more than twice the highest deficit we have ever had. We cannot do that. This is serious business.

I hope and pray the stimulus package will give us some benefit. I know it will. When we spend \$800 billion, every penny of it is borrowed, to be paid back someday, or the interest paid back by our children or grandchildren. This stimulus package, hopefully, will give us some lift, but we will carry the debt.

Do you know what the Congressional Budget Office told us when they analyzed the \$800 billion stimulus package? They said: Yes, it will provide a benefit for a few years. You will get a lift in the economy. But over 10 years, just over 10 years, it will have a net negative to the economy, a slight negative because you have to carry this debt, and it is crowding out private sector borrowing because the government borrowed it first. The government has to pay interest to all these people around the world who loan us this money.

There is no easy way out of this. It is time for us to be mature and grown up and make good decisions. It is time to say no to this legislation unless it is paid for, and we can pay for it. There are plenty of places in our budget it can be paid for.

I thank colleagues for allowing me to share these thoughts. I thank Senator COBURN for raising this important issue, for his courage in saying it is time to do better. We can do better. We can do this in the right way. We came close tonight to getting it done, I thought, in a paid-for way—so close. If we stand in there, maybe in a week or 2 we will be able to take care of the unemployment insurance and pay for it in a sound way.

I yield the floor.

Mr. COBURN. I yield 7½ minutes to the Senator from Nebraska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska is recognized.

Mr. JOHANNES. Mr. President, I am proud to rise tonight and follow, first of all, Senator SESSIONS. He has come to the floor many times on this issue and talked about the crisis that is building in our Nation relative to the spending and the debt. He always speaks with such eloquence.

I also want to say thank you to my colleague, Senator COBURN, for giving me an opportunity to come down tonight and offer a few thoughts in the